

Attorney's Docket No. 026350-068

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of Hiroshi SANO et al. Group Art Unit: 1638 Application No.: 09/971,020 Examiner: Ashwin D. Mehta Filed: October 5, 2001 Confirmation No.: 3752 RECEIVED

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TECH CENTER 1600/2900 For: THEOBROMINE SYNTHASE POLYPEPTIDE OF COFFEE PLANT AND THE GENE ENCODING SAID POLYPEPTIDE

REPLY AND AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In complete response to the Official Action mailed September 24, 2002 (Paper No.

10), Applicants respectfully request the following amendments to the instant application.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the current Abstract, found at Page 20 of the Specification, with the attached Abstract.

Please replace Paragraph 0008, at Page 3 of the Specification, with the following:

[0008] The present invention will be further explained in detail hereafter with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which: